

LESSON DESIGN

ARCHAEOLOGY

USGS & Historical Maps 2

OVERVIEW: The students will discuss and list the reasons for not being able to locate a site that is marked on an historical map.

OBJECTIVE: Given a USGS and an historical map of the same area the students will be able to make a list of reasons that a site located on an historical map might not be able to be located in the field.

SET: The teacher holds up a USGS map and an historical map and says, “This historical map has a site indicated on it. I have taken this USGS map of the same area with me but I have not been able to locate the site. What could be some of the reasons?” Wait for a response. If there is a correct one, recognize it and then say, “Today we are going to discuss and list all the reason for not being able to locate a site from an historical map.”

INSTRUCTION AND ACTIVITIES: Put students in groups of four, and give each group a USGS and an historical map of the same area. Review the findings and pass out the master sheet from Lesson: USGS & Historical Maps 1. Have each group work together to create a list of all the reasons why a site can’t be located. Have each group present their findings to the class. Create a master list of the findings to be distributed to the class.

TEST OF OBJECTIVES: The teacher will move about the room interacting with the groups and asking what reasons they have discovered.

EXTENSION: Have each group discuss and list how they would locate independent supporting evidence for the existence of this site. What would be the similarities and the differences searching for supporting evidence for a prehistoric versus an historic site? Have each group present their findings to the class.

GRADE LEVEL, MATERIALS AND TIME: 1st through 12th. Enough USGS and historical maps, pencils, and paper for groups of four students. Review of the lesson on USGS & Historical Maps 1. One period.

GENERAL COMMENTS: An excellent book is Be Expert With Map & Compass: The Orienteering Handbook by Bjorn Kjellstrom.

ANY QUESTIONS? E-mail me at georgeschneider@comcast.net
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